



Attending: Keith Hunt, WIOA Chief Diversity & Exclusion Officer; Andrea Guest, DVR; Terry Gallagher, DSS; Rhonda Austin, Job Corps; Tiffany Townsend-Warrick, DSS; Valencia Sudler-Wynn DSS; William Potter, DWDB; Robin McKinney-Newman, DWDB; Darrell Miller, DOE/Adult & Prison Ed; Alta Porterfield, DE Libraries; Jamie Towns, DHSS/DVI; Maureen Whelan DOE Adult and Prison Education Resources; Barry Butler, DET; Brenda Rodriguez, DVR; Karlton Roberts, DET (Re-entry); Richard Fernandes, DET; Lori Reeder, DET; Valarie Tickle, Criminal Justice Council; Jon Wickert, DOE/CTE; Sarah Meyer, Telamon; Romie Lutz, DET; Sherese Brewington-Carr, DET; Cynthia Fairwell, DVR; Pat Scruggs, TIP Strategies; and Hope Ellsworth (recording).

Documents Reviewed During the January Meeting:

1. **One-Stop Team link:** <https://labor.delaware.gov/divisions/employment-training/team-info/>
2. H1B1 IT/Cyber Security Training Grant (Text from document is included below.)
3. Frontline Team's WIOA Staff Orientation PPT: The final version will be loaded onto the One-Stop Team Link.

2-17-21 Meeting Discussion: This meeting was held via Zoom.

Welcome & Introductions

1. Leadership team changes:
 - a. Congrats to Rachel Turney who is now Deputy Secretary of DOL
 - b. The Team welcomed Rhonda Austin, Job Corps, who attended for her 1st time.

Partner Resource Sharing

1. **NextGen Delaware Joblink:** Lori Reeder (DET) provided an update. The next generation ("NextGen") of Delaware Joblink is set to roll out on 2/19 @ 5pm with testing and deployment. Lori provided a document that outlines DJL Subject Matter Experts to contact with a question about a certain section of the updated DJL. The DJL Subject Matter Expert Document was distributed with Leaders after the meeting and was also shared with the One-Stop Teams. Lori added that the new DJL provides a better experience on phones and tablets. The NextGen DJL will go live on 2/22. The website is not changing: <https://joblink.delaware.gov>.
2. **H1B1, 4-Year IT/Cyber Security Training Grant: Delaware Department of Labor receives \$9,193,902 from the H1B One Workforce Grant to provide more economic growth opportunities in the IT Industry.** The Delaware Department of Labor (DE DOL) works with partners in the Information Technology (IT) sector to build pathways through educational, training, and work-based learning opportunities for Delaware citizens who are unemployed, underemployed, disabled, veterans and their spouses (including those veterans transitioning out of the U.S. Armed Forces), young adults ages 18-26, underrepresented women, People of Color, or citizens reentering the workforce as ex-offenders to prepare for jobs and connect with employers in the IT field.

Why did the State of Delaware apply for the H1B One Workforce Grant? According to available information about Delaware job postings from August 2019 and July 2020, there was a monthly average of over 4,000 job postings for IT opportunities and over 450 hires per month in IT. From 2014-2019, IT occupations grew in the state by over 12%, compared with an overall occupation growth rate of 7%. Furthermore, the [H1B One Workforce Grant](#) will serve over 700 customers interested in obtaining a skill and earn credentials to prepare them to enter mid to high-level occupations in the IT field.

Awarded credentials include but are not limited to Industry Recognized Credentials, Certifications, [Apprenticeship](#) Journeyman Papers, Degrees or Diplomas, etc.

[Tech Impact](#) and [Delaware State University](#) partnered with DE DOL. These organizations have been working together to help underrepresented communities and build a system that recruits, identifies training partners, and interfaces with a newly developed IT Industry Council to meet the in-demand IT occupations (security, developers, applications, analysts, admins, programmers, technicians, etc). “The Delaware Department of Labor is excited to be a partner in the development of a career pipeline that produces a qualified work-force within an in-demand industry. The training and the re-employment of workers impacted by COVID-19, will help to get Delawareans back to work,” says, Karryl Hubbard, Secretary of Labor.

“We are excited to work alongside the Delaware Department of Labor and Delaware State University to continue developing an inclusive tech talent pipeline for the citizens of Delaware,” stated Patrick Callihan, Executive Director of nonprofit Tech Impact. “Delaware is already a national leader in developing a diverse workforce in technology, and this grant will enable us to collectively provide increased access to high wage careers, meet the growing demands of our employers, and attract new economic development opportunities for the state.”

Saundra DeLauder, Provost and Chief Academic Officer at Delaware State University noted, “Our institution has a proud legacy of providing access and opportunity for first generation and underserved populations. This opportunity aligns with the priorities of our School of Graduate, Adult and Extended Studies under the leadership of Dean Patrice Gilliam-Johnson and we look forward to working with our partners in expanding workforce opportunities for our citizens.”

The Delaware Department of Labor has partnered with the following employers: Marlette Funding (FinTech/IT), CAI (IT), WSFS (Financial), SSD Technology Partners (IT), Brandywine Technology (IT). Delaware Department of Labor connects people to jobs, resources, monetary benefits, workplace protections, and labor market information to promote financial independence, workplace justice, and a strong economy.

3. Alta Porterfield reported that [Libraries](#) received funds and have purchased Chromebooks and MiFis to lend out at the local libraries. They are still setting up the process and it should be ready within the next month.
4. Maureen reported that more [GED Testing Sites](#) are re-opening: Maureen announced that more GED Testing sites are re-opening. She advised to check back periodically since more continue to open. The link is - <https://www.doe.k12.de.us/Page/2966>. Hope will be sharing this link with the One-Stop Team members as well.
5. Key Statewide Resources Shared with One-Stop Teams this month.
 - a. Tech Impact HelpDesk (new support)
 - b. JFS Employment Support Network
 - c. DE Guidance Services COVID Mental Health Classes have been opened up to all WIOA Partner staff.
 - d. Nat’l Assn. on Mental Illness has been offering free online classes

WIOA Non-Discrimination Policy

1. Keith Hunt reported that he has completed the nondiscrimination plan document package as of 2/16 and it was sent to Karryl Hubbard for her final review and signature. Keith will share the plan with WIOA Leaders once it is signed by Karryl.

WIOA Partner Referrals: Getting us Back on Track

1. Due to time constraints, an update was quickly provided. Hope and Romie Lutz (DET Referral Liaison) continue to meeting weekly. Romie is working on a Partner Referral Policy for DET. Hope will take that policy and draft a WIOA One-Stop Partner updated Partner Referral policy. The hope is to share the draft before the April Meeting.

WIOA Leadership Implementation Planning

1. Frontline Services – Maureen presented the updated WIOA Staff Orientation PPT and shared the survey results from those who reviewed the document. Hope added that the One-Stop teams also reviewed and commented on the draft. As a result, many changes have been made to improve the scope of information presented
2. Business Engagement – Darrell Miller and other leaders continue to meet with Pat and TIPS Strategies staff to work on a comprehensive employer engagement plan.
3. Case Management – The Case Management Implementation Team has been working to ID which partner programs are providing case management support to the same individual. Barry shared the section under DJL that will be utilized to develop/keep a comprehensive list of job seekers and learners who are receiving long term support services from Partner programs. A pilot is being developed so that front line staff can help work out the snags.

Justification: There is a need for a more integrated approach to long-term case management support for vulnerable job seekers and learners receiving services from multiple WIOA Partner Programs. This will lead to improved and more integrated service delivery for our clients.

Strategy: Identify/Develop a One-Stop System tool that will allow Partner Programs to determine if other Programs are providing services to the same individual.

Status/Recommendation: Delaware Joblink

Things to Address:

- Which Provider Programs do NOT currently require registration in DJL? (Registration would be required to keep case management data in the system.)
 - For Programs that do NOT require DJL, how many need to be part of the database of individuals receiving case management support? (For instance, DDL patrons would not need to be included.)
 - How would the data be added into DJL? Who would add the information (CM support for an individual into the system)? CENTRAL is being developed to include highly specialized staff that could be contacted to provide resource information for case managers. Should they be involved?
 - This team is working on a small pilot to work out the snags.
4. Process Re-design – Efforts currently involved the Partner referral process.
 5. Adult Career Pathways – A meeting for April is planned.

TIP Strategies Technical Assistance & Update

1. Pat Scruggs (TIP Strategies) provided an update. A 2-tiered Demand Occupation list is being developed that will lead to better salary and employment outcomes for those receiving training. She also discussed the development of an outcome dashboard (that will provide an overall picture of how effective our One-Stop system is). Finally, Pat and Darrel Miller discussed the upgraded employer engagement initiative with more of a sector focus.

5-12-21 One-Stop System Convening

1. Hope provided a quick update due to lack of time. The One-Stop Teams are continuing to provide final input on the convening details. A pre-convening “Work from Home Tech Tips” series is also being planned and those workshops will be held on 5/10.

Forward Delaware “Enhancement”

1. Betsy Jones (Polytech) shared an idea with Hope. The idea is that One-Stop Teams be available to provide assistance/suggestions when a training provider identifies a roadblock or barrier for someone in the certification programs, but don’t have a resolution. Hope has contacted all of the Forward Delaware training provider agencies to offer this assistance. If they are soliciting ideas to address a barrier, they will send me a description of the barrier and the need and Hope will send out to the County teams.

Local One-Stop Meetings Update

1. Due to lack of time, Hope quickly reported that the One-Stop teams are working with Hope on the final convening details. Also, there are 2 major presentations in all of the counties this month: Apprenticeship and the Blue Collar Jobs Program.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 17th, 9-11am via Zoom.